



Docket No.: 50212-174

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Application of

Kaoru OKUNO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/734,205

: Group Art Unit: 2874

Filed: December 12, 2000

: Examiner: John Hoffman

For: **OPTICAL FIBER MAKING METHOD AND OPTICAL FIBER MAKING APPARATUS**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated April 22, 2003, the Examiner imposed a Restriction Requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121, requiring election of one of the following:

Group I. Claims 1 through 6 directed to a method;

Group II. Claims 7 through 11 directed to an apparatus;

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute method claims 1 through 6 (Group I). Favorable consideration of claims 1 through 6 is solicited.

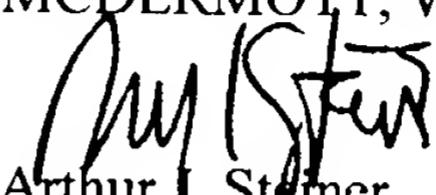
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

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extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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